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Carl Schurz Memorial

CARL SCHURZ MEMORIAL





C. Simms.

Carl Schurz Memorial



THE CARL SCHURZ MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

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Association
APR 27 1911

The Carl Schurz Memorial

ITS OBJECT AND PURPOSE AS FOSTERED BY THE CARL SCHURZ MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN

The above association has been organized to do honor to the memory of the late Carl Schurz.

There is no need of recounting the claims to recognition of this distinguished citizen. From the moment he landed on the soil of the new world he became an American patriot. In incredibly short time he became thoroughly familiar with our institutions, mastered the language that to him was foreign, thrilled the country with his eloquence, and, still a youth in years, stood forth among its leading statesmen. Perhaps no one man contributed more than he to the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and the new era of national development which ensued. In the field, in the senate, in literature, on the platform, on the stump, and in social and political organizations for the elevation of governmental methods he has been not only an untiring worker, but a recognized power, ever true to his convictions, courageous, independent, striving for the highest moral principle in the domain of public life.

Mr. James F. Rhodes, in his admirable history of the United States, covering the period of 1850-1877,

finds occasion again and again to commend the distinguished services of Carl Schurz. Mentioning the "misfortune" of the latter's retirement from the senate of the United States by reason of a political revulsion in Missouri in 1874, this able and conscientious critic sets him down as "almost an ideal senator"—a degree of praise accorded to but few other men.

EARLY RESIDENT OF WISCONSIN

Mr. Schurz made his early home in Wisconsin. Here he commenced his great career, and here he has counted many personal friends. Throughout life he looked upon Wisconsin with peculiar affection, as a sort of secondary place of origin. It is most appropriate that Wisconsin should erect a monument to his memory. It should be a monument not of bronze or of stone, but of a form akin to his intellectual aspirations. At an early day he was a regent of our infant State University. In June, 1905, the last year of his life, he delivered a notable address on its "Commencement" day and received at its hands the honorary degree of LL.D.

A CARL SCHURZ PROFESSORSHIP

It is therefore proposed to perpetuate his name by endowing in our University a chair to be known as the "Carl Schurz Professorship."

This chair is to be dedicated to what might be called the cultivation of international scholarship. It is to be filed by distinguished professors of the great German Universities. They are to give annual courses

of lectures to our students. With this is to be combined a system of popular lectures by the same gentlemen in our cities on the principle of University Extension.

The system will incidentally promote an aim which General Schurz ever held very dear to his heart, the linking of his native and his adopted country in the closest bonds of friendship.

YOUR CO-OPERATION INVITED

In order properly to endow this professorship it will be necessary to raise the sum of \$60,000. Therefore to establish this "monument" to the memory of the noble dead the committee appeals to a generous public. The fund will be placed with the authorities of the University as an endowment to be used solely for the purposes stated.

A committee will wait on our citizens for subscriptions. Contributions may also be sent directly to Mr. Fred Vogel, Jr., the treasurer, First National Bank, Milwaukee.

AN AMERICAN TRIBUTE

In making this appeal to the public it should be understood that it is not confined to any one class. Carl Schurz embodied in himself the highest exemplification of American patriotism, citizenship, and statesmanship. His magnificent career and the impetus which he gave to fearless thought and action on all questions affecting the welfare of the nation, have been an inspiration to all the people.

THE INTERCHANGE OF PROFESSORS

The interchange of professors between universities of this and other countries is not an entirely novel idea; and some of our higher institutions of learning have repeatedly welcomed professors from foreign countries who have delivered single lectures or given more extended courses.

Probably the first attempt, however, to establish anything like a foreign lectureship at one of our universities, with any degree of permanence, was made at Harvard about ten years ago, when Mr. James H. Hyde gave to the Cercle Français a fund of thirty thousand dollars to secure each year an expert from France in the field of literature, art, or philosophy. Since that time the idea of international scholarship has grown greatly in favor.

At the present day, Harvard not only offers the rather short course of lectures made possible by Mr. Hyde's gift, but sends one of its professors to France each year, to give regular courses of lectures at the Sorbonne during the first semester, and during the second semester, shorter courses at other universities of France. Moreover, in fulfillment of a standing agreement between Harvard University and the Cultusministerium at Berlin, entered into during the winter of 1904 and 1905, a Harvard professor now spends an entire semester giving regular courses of lectures at

the University of Berlin; and in return Harvard receives a professor from Germany who, during the first half of the academic year, takes up his residence and work in Cambridge.

A somewhat similar arrangement has been effected between Columbia University and the German authorities. The Theodore Roosevelt Professorship, endowed by Mr. James Speyer, was created at Columbia, and the incumbent of this chair lectures on subjects American in Berlin; while the German government has established the Kaiser Wilhelm Professorship, which enables a German scholar to lecture at Columbia.

**ENDORSEMENT BY PRESIDENT VAN HISE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**

MADISON, March 13, 1907.

General F. C. Winkler,

Milwaukee, Wis.

MY DEAR GENERAL WINKLER:

It is with very great pleasure that I learn of the plan to establish a Carl Schurz Memorial Professorship at the University. There could be no more appropriate and happy plan for worthily perpetuating the name and memory of this great German American.

Carl Schurz made his first home in this country in Wisconsin. Here he won his first laurels in the career that afterwards led to national recognition and fame. Here he was early associated with the University as one of its regents.

A memorial to Carl Schurz, to do full justice to his peculiar position in the public life of our country, should be devoted to some phase of intellectual and moral culture embodying the best of both American and German ideals. I do not see how this could be done in a way likely to produce broader and more lasting effects than by the establishment of a memorial chair in the State University to be held by German scholars in a manner similar to the exchange arrangements existing now between Germany and some eastern institutions, but not yet existing in this great middle west, nor in any state university.

This plan of yours, which I beg to endorse most heartily and unreservedly, and the success of which I regard as assured, has been enthusiastically received by the University as a whole. I feel convinced that it will appeal strongly to our entire population, and that it will receive the most hearty support of the alumni of the University.

Very sincerely yours,

CHARLES R. VAN HISE.

COMMUNICATIONS

All communications should be sent to Mr. Erich C. Stern, Secretary, 48 and 49 Loan & Trust Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

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